

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 03592 131331Z  
ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00  
L-01 PM-03 DODE-00 SSM-01 NEAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00  
PRS-01 SP-02 /040 W  
-----131333Z 054068 /43

O 131250Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
TO SECSTATE UUSHDC IMMEDIATE 920

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 3592

LIMDIS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION ISLAMABAD INFO LAHORE FROM KARACHI  
APRIL 13 REPEATED YOU:

QUOTE SECRET KARACHI 1729

LIMDIS NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PK, PINT  
SUBJECT: DISPLACEMENT OF PRIME MINISTER

REF: KARACHI 1726, (B) MOORE-SCHAFER TELECONS

1. OUR JOURNALISTIC SOURCES DESCRIBE THE CURRENT STATE  
OF PLAY AS FOLLOWS:

A. BHUTTO IS NO LONGER ACTING AS PRIME MINISTER  
BUT IS IN ARMY CUSTODY IN LAHORE, AS RELAYED TO SCHAFER  
IN OUR TELECON.

B. THE ARMY CONTINUES TO SEEK A POLITICAL SOLUTION WITH  
A NEUTRAL PRIME MINISTER IN HOPES OF AVOIDING MARTIAL LAW.  
HOWEVER, SERIOUS CONSIDERATION IS BEING GIVEN TO FULL OR  
SECRET

SECRET

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AT LEAST PARTIAL (IN BIG CITIES) MARTIAL LAW TO  
PREVENT AN OUTBURST OF REVENGE AGAINST THE POLICE AND  
THE PPP. IN ANY CASE, BHUTTO AND HIS FAMILY WILL HAVE  
TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY. PLANS ARE BEING MADE FOR THEIR  
SAFE DEPARTURE TO EXILE ABROAD. SOMEWHERE IN EUROPE IS  
THE MOST LIKELY PLACE, BUT THE U.S. CANNOT BE RULED OUT AS  
POSSIBILITY.

C. PPP REPRESENTATIVES ARE IN ON THE CONTINUING DISCUSSIONS IN LAHORE BECAUSE IT IS A POLITICAL SOLUTION THAT IS SOUGHT, ANBVAS ORDERLY A TRANSITION AS POSSIBLE. THE FORMATION OF SMALLER PARTIES SPUN OFF FROM THE PPP, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF VARIOUS PPP FIGURES, IS BEING CONSIDERED. THE DESIRED SCENARIO WOULD HAVE BHUTTO ANNOUNCING HIS OWN RESIGNATION AND NAMING HIS SUCCESSOR AS HEAD OF A CARETAKER GOVERNMENT, ONCE A SUCCESSOR CAN BE AGREED UPON. OUR SOURCES HAVE NO NAMES TO OFFER AS LIKELY PROSPECTS.

D. THE CONSULTATIONNIARE PROCEEDING IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF GREAT URGENCY BECAUSE A MAJOR BREAKDOWN OF ORDER AT LEAST IN THE CITIES IS FEARED AS A REAL POSSIBILITY.

2. IN ALMOST ANY SOCIAL OR BUSINESS CONVERSATION THAT ONE HAS WITH PAKISTANIS NOW THE MAIN TOPIC IS BHUTTO'S IMPENDING RESIGNATPXN, WHICH IS ASSUMED BY VIRTUALLY EVERYONE TOTOE IMMINENT. MOORE UNQUOTE DFROADE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 13-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** 77 KARACHI 1726  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2823829  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DISPLACEMENT OF PRIME MINISTER  
**TAGS:** PINT, PK, (BHUTTO, ALI)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009